

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

March 15, 2006

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Request for Regional Input/Comment on Goal 5 Strategic Targets

FROM: Marylouise M. Uhlig /s/

Associate Assistant Administrator

Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances

Catherine R. McCabe /s/

Deputy Assistant Administrator

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Louise Wise /s/

Principal Deputy Associate Administrator Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation

TO: Deputy Regional Administrators

We want to extend our thanks to Regional and Headquarters staff and management for their work in developing the draft architecture for Goal 5 of the EPA 2006-2011 Strategic Plan. This draft architecture reflects months of effort by the Goal 5 team, working with our partners and stakeholders, to define the results we want to achieve and to chart our course for achieving those results. The new outcome-oriented strategic targets supporting this architecture are a significant improvement over the current plan, and will strengthen our planning, program execution, and assessment processes.

As you know, the draft architecture for EPA's 2006-2011 Strategic Plan was released for public comment on February 14, 2006. As a follow-up action, we are requesting that Regions work with States and Tribes to comment on all proposed Goal 5 measures and, for those measures identified in the attachment, to also develop Regional estimates of progress by 2011 in each Region. In developing Regional targets, Regions should use the national targets in the proposed architecture as a point of reference. At the same time, we expect that senior Regional managers will want to look across all five goals and adjust targets to best fit the needs and conditions in each Region. We will then work with you through the end of the strategic plan development process to ensure that the 5-year national targets contained in EPA's 2006-2011 Strategic Plan meet the government-wide criteria of being both ambitious and attainable.

The compliance and enforcement measures in Objective 5.1 have national targets that will be set by the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance's Planning Council which is composed of both Regional and Headquarters members. Even though we do not need the Regions to provide us with numerical estimates for the measures, they are included in the attachment. They are included so you have the opportunity to review them alongside other program measures, and consequently be able to determine the full scale and range of their efforts needed to support the new Strategic Plan. Measures related to science and research activities supporting the Goal 5 activities are also not covered in the attachment as they do not require regional target setting.

Please respond with your estimates, comments and observations on regional 5-year targets by March 31, 2006, the end of the public comment period on the draft architecture. Responses should be directed to each of the Goal Team co-leads with a copy to Christopher Hoff, Director Planning Staff, OCFO.

In closing, we want to thank all of you for your continued support. Together we can ensure the successful and timely completion of our 2006-2011 Strategic Plan and its submittal to the Congress at the end of September.

CC: Goal 5 Managers Goal 5 Staff

Attachment